

Weekly News

St. Luke's Episcopal Church
210 SE Ninth St., Bartlesville, Oklahoma 74003
www.episcopalbartlesville.org
December 19, 2018

All:

There is one Sunday of Advent left until the season of Christmas is upon us. I know that the rest of the community has been celebrating Christmas since before Thanksgiving, yet, here at St. Luke's, we're behind the curve—waiting on the Christ child like the generations that have gone before us. When one of your friends suggests that the Episcopal Church has capitulated to the culture, you can always point (with an appropriate air of playfulness) to the way we celebrate Christmas—as far as I'm concerned, there is no capitulation in sight. But I digress... what I really want you to tell you is what is upcoming as the Christmas season begins:

Friday, December 21, 6:00PM, East Cross United Methodist Church—a “Blue Christmas” service for those folk that aren't feeling too festive this year. The purpose of the service is to give a moment of respite from the cheerfulness of the holidays, recognizing that not everyone is having a “Merry” Christmas—especially for those that are grieving or depressed.

Sunday, December 23, 10:30AM—St. Luke's children's pageant with Holy Eucharist and special musical offerings from our youth.

Monday, December 24, 5:00PM—Christmas Eve service with Holy Eucharist and carols

Monday, December 24, 10:00PM—Christmas Eve special music followed at 10:30PM by a choral Eucharist with full choir

Tuesday, December 25, 10:00AM—Christmas Day service in the chapel at St. Luke's—a simple Eucharist with carols using Rite I.

Sunday, December 30, 8AM and 10:30AM—Holy Eucharist. Christmas carols at the 10:30AM service with guest organist, Mark Wright. Also, witness the renewal of wedding vows with Mike and Laurie Watkins.

Sunday, January 6, 8AM and 10:30AM—Holy Eucharist celebrating the Feast of the Epiphany

Sunday, January 6, 5:15PM—Celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany with sung Evening Prayer

The Monday evening & Thursday noon service will not gather from December 24th through January 7th.

Also, beginning on Wednesday, January 9, the weeknight Eucharist will be moved from Monday to Wednesday nights at 5:30PM. Hopefully, this time will enable busy folk that missed Sunday morning services to worship and receive Holy Communion during the week.

There are many opportunities to worship at St. Luke's over the next several weeks. I hope to see many of you at one or more of the services, and I hope you will invite your family and friends to attend as well. If you are traveling, make a point to worship God at a church wherever you may be.

Christ's Peace,

Father Steve

A Special Announcement from Bishop Ed

Friends:

For the past 12 years, it has been a blessing, honor, and privilege to be your Bishop here in Oklahoma. We have shared an incredible journey being the Episcopal Branch of the Jesus Movement in this part of God's Kingdom. I now want to share that following a time of prayer, discernment, and in consultation with the Presiding Bishop, I have decided to announce my intention to resign as Bishop of Oklahoma and retire on January 1, 2021.

You may be wondering why I am making this announcement two years in advance. The process to discern nominees and elect a new Bishop requires a minimum of at least 18 months. It is my intention to call for the election of a Bishop Coadjutor. A Bishop Coadjutor is elected to succeed a Diocesan Bishop. By electing a Bishop Coadjutor, there will be a time of overlap for the new Bishop and I to work together to ensure a smooth transition. Additionally, the Lambeth Conference, which gathers all the Bishops in the Anglican Communion once every ten years, is scheduled for July 2020. Given the relationships we share with the larger Anglican Church, I believe it is important for our new Bishop to attend this conference.

The Presiding Bishop has scheduled the date of April 18, 2020 for the consecration of our new Bishop.

Some may be wondering why I have made this decision to retire. I will be nearing my 15th year as your Bishop at the time of my retirement. We have accomplished much during my tenure: we are healthy spiritually, financially, and prepared to grow and develop in new and emerging ways. It is time to discern the next Bishop who will lead the Diocese of Oklahoma into this new season of ministry.

The responsibility for discerning Bishop candidates and conducting an election rests with the Standing Committee of the Diocese. **The Standing Committee** will be meeting with a representative of the Presiding Bishop's Office in the next few days to begin this process. **More information about the process and timeline for the election will be published soon.**

This time of transition is not a time where everything is placed on hold. We will continue to be focused on the programs and ministries happening throughout the diocese, in our institutions, and especially completing the expansion and renovations of St. Crispin's.

As we move into this time of transition, I ask that you hold our Diocese, the Standing Committee, and Debbie and I in your prayers.

I want all of you to know that my time as your Bishop has been the most blessed and rewarding of my life.

Please know how much Debbie and I love all of you.

Thank you.

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a Bishop for this Diocese, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Faithfully,
+Bishop Ed

No Sunday School or Children's Chapel on Dec 30th!

Spanish Conversation:

Our Spanish Conversation class continues Sunday, Dec. 23,
from 12:00 to 1:00 pm in the Vestry Room.

Feel free to come and try it out! If you have no Spanish, some Spanish, or old and rusty Spanish,
this class is for you!

Each class will teach us some special conversational skills in Spanish, so we may better understand
and help our Hispanic friends.

Curious about what we cover? Our handouts are posted here each week: [Spanish class handouts](#).

For more information, contact Jeff Birk (918-327-1101) or Lauri Watkins (918-766-2473).

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP GROUP

Due to busy schedules and many conflicts, we will not have Women's Fellowship Group in December. Please mark your
calendar for January 10, 2019 for our next gathering. See you then!

St. Luke's Treasure Sale

6th Edition

February 8th & 9th, 2019

Yes, we're doing it again! And, yes, we need your *treasures*! Watch for more news about our
6th Bi-annual Treasure Sale. All proceeds go to Outreach!

Supper Clubs Return

What are you doing after Advent and the Twelve Days of Christmas? Normally we get into the post-
Christmas doldrums. But, wait there is something brewing ---- **Supper Clubs**. That's right, eight
people, sharing a meal, sharing themselves, sharing their lives with their group. Here's how it
works: signup (signup sheets are posted this week on the church bulletin board), wait for the
sorting hat to assign the groups (early January), and then wait for the group coordinator to call the
group together.

Your group makes its own schedule and decides important items like "eat-in or eat-out", and
menus.

So, take the first step, **sign up**. If you're new to St. Luke's, **sign up**. If you want to expand your
circle, **SIGN UP**.

You can direct questions to Deacon Mike Watkins (918-336-1430)

ST. LUKE'S PRAYER LIST Please keep the following persons in your prayers:

*Elizabeth, Jenny, Thelma, Georgia, Diana, Millie, Bryson, John, Samantha, Sydney, Ed, Evelyn, Toni, Milton,
Joyce, Joseph, Lyndee, Alan, Virginia, Pris, Bill, Karen, Lee, Bonnie, Linda, Madelyn, Annette, Ethan, Elaine,
Marjean, Tonya, Helen, Sandy, Mark, Darian, Alice, Tom, Cynthia
and all members of our armed forces and their families.*

If you have a prayer request, contact our Prayer Ministry Coordinator Thelma Blackburn 918-333-7902 or
TPBGEN@aol.com or the church office at 918-336-1212 or office@episcopalbartlesville.org.

(Names on the Prayer List are rotated off every 4 weeks. If there is need for continued prayers, please let us know.)

LAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE DECEMBER 2018

Volunteers: Please make your own substitutions

Scriptures Sunday, December 23:

Micah (5:2-5a); Psalm (80:1-7);
Hebrews 10:5-10); Luke (1:39-45; 46-55)

Children's Chapel:

December 23: Karl Franks
December 30: Canceled

Nursery Volunteers:

December 23: Diana Crawford & Dorsie Bjornsen
December 30: Rotate

Bereavement Committee

Team 4:

Ada Grillot, Jo Baughman, Kris Bonner,
Jen Peterson

Sunday Coffee

Fellowship Hour:

December 16: Greens
December 23: Nancy Megee
December 30: Kris Bonner
To volunteer see the sign-up sheet
in the Metcalf Hall kitchen or
contact Rita Childers, 918-519-8470
or puvey45@gmail.com

Ushers:

December 23:
8:00am: Dean Zervas
10:30am: Jim Grillot, Nancy Megee
December 24:
5:00pm: Steve Clark, Jim Warring
10:30pm: Jim Liehr, Glenn Bonner
December 30:
8:00am: Dean Zervas, Don Davidson
10:30am: Jeff Birk, Karl Franks

Agape Mission

Thursday, December 27:

CLOSED

Greeters:

December 23:
8:00am: Sally Canfield
10:30am: D.J. & Jerry Nezam, Jim &
Nancy Warring
December 30:
8:00am: Gretchen Hoyt
10:30am: Carol Murphy

Layreaders:

December 23:
8:00am: Jeff Birk, Judy Currey
10:30am: Penny Williams, Jim Warring
December 30:
8:00am: Jim Grillot, Scott Williams
10:30am: Judy Currey, Penny Williams

Sunday Plate Counter:

December 23: Jim Grillot
December 30: Karl Franks

St. Luke's Episcopal Church

210 East 9th Street

Bartlesville, Oklahoma 74003

(Return Service Requested)

<http://www.episcopalbartlesville.org/>

The Rev. Stephen Hood, Rector fathersdhood@gmail.com 918-330-6108
The Rev. Douglas Freebern, Deacon dfreebern@gmail.com 918-914-0525
The Rev. Lauri Watkins, Deacon lwatkins@episcopalbartlesville.org 918-766-2473
The Rev. Mike Watkins, Deacon mike.watkins@sbcglobal.net 918-336-1430
In an Emergency, contact any of the clergy listed above.
Robyn Crow, Parish Secretary (office@episcopalbartlesville.org)
Dolores McCreary, Organist/Choir Director (dolores@episcopalbartlesville.org)
Kathy Zervas, Sr. Warden (kzerv@aol.com)
Dan Droege, Jr. Warden (DBDComm@aol.com)
Office Phone: 918-336-1212 Office Fax: 918-336-2557
Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8:30am-4:00pm, Fridays 8:30am-12:30pm
Holy Eucharist: Sunday 8am & 10:30am; Monday 5:30pm, Thursday 12pm